

The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

1. (currently amended) A method for facilitating asset-based financing in a private sale of a titled asset without previously having taken title to the asset, the method comprising:

validating a titled asset to be sold by a seller to a buyer,

arranging for financing by a lender of funds to be paid to a seller for said asset on behalf of a buyer,

providing an escrow service for ensuring that financial and legal aspects of said sale occur in an orderly manner,

all of said steps taking place without an intermediate transfer of ownership of said asset from said seller to any party other than said buyer.

2. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said validation comprises an examination of the asset and creation of descriptive information regarding the asset and its condition, and recording said descriptive information in a report.

3. (original) A method in accordance with claim 2 wherein said validation comprises an inspection of the asset and a recommendation for repairs or alterations of the asset.

4. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said method includes additional steps selected from the group consisting of: providing tag and title services in which requirements for licensing and registration of the asset with governmental officials are fulfilled, resolving liens held by previous lenders of money to said seller by paying all monies owed lienholders existing at the time of sale, and attending to recordal of new liens associated with borrowing by said buyer.

5. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said method includes providing tag and title services in which requirements for licensing and registration of the asset with governmental officials are fulfilled.

6. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said method includes resolving liens held by previous lenders of money to said seller by paying all monies owed lienholders existing at the time of sale.

7. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said method includes attending to recordal of new liens associated with borrowing by said buyer.

8. (currently amended) A method for facilitating asset-based financing in a private sale of a titled vehicle without previously having taken title to the vehicle, the method comprising:

validating a titled vehicle to be sold by a seller to a buyer, said validating including an inspection of said vehicle to confirm its make, model and condition,

arranging for financing by a lender of funds to be paid to a seller for said vehicle on behalf of a buyer,

providing an escrow service in which an agent coordinates said sale, and makes arrangements for said vehicle and title to said vehicle to be transferred to the buyer, arranges for purchase funds to be given to the seller of said vehicle, and attends to satisfaction of any liens with respect to the seller's ownership of said vehicle, and attends to recordal of any liens to be made by a lender of funds to said buyer on said title,

all of said steps taking place without an intermediate transfer of ownership of said vehicle from said seller to any party other than said buyer.

9. (original) A method in accordance with claim 8 wherein said validating comprises preparation of a descriptive information report with recommendations for maintenance, repair and/or alteration of said vehicle.

10. (currently amended) A system for facilitating asset-based financing in a person-to-person sale of a titled asset without previously having taken title to the asset, the system comprising:

a validating service in which a titled asset to be sold by a seller to a buyer is inspected and characteristics of said asset are certified,

a finance arrangement service in which a potential lender is provided information about said asset, and funds to be paid to a seller for said asset on behalf of a buyer are made available by said lender to said buyer based upon documentation containing information regarding said buyer.

an escrow service for ensuring that financial and legal aspects of said sale occur in an orderly manner,

all of said services being provided so as to allow said sale to take place without an intermediate transfer of ownership of said vehicle from said seller to any party other than said buyer.

11. (original) A system in accordance with claim 10 wherein said validation service comprises an examination of the asset by a technician familiar with assets of the type to be sold, and said technician creates a written report containing descriptive information regarding the asset and its condition.

12. (original) A system in accordance with claim 11 wherein said asset is a vehicle and validation comprises an inspection of the vehicle and a recommendation for repairs or alterations of the vehicle.

13. (original) A system in accordance with claim 10 wherein said system includes additional services selected from the group consisting of: tag and title services in which requirements for licensing and registration of the asset with governmental officials are fulfilled, resolution of liens held by previous lenders of money to said seller by paying all monies owed lienholders existing at the time of sale, and recordal of new liens associated with borrowing by said buyer.

14. (original) A system in accordance with claim 10 wherein said system includes tag and title services in which requirements for licensing and registration of the asset with governmental officials are fulfilled.

15. (original) A system in accordance with claim 10 wherein said system includes a service for resolving liens held by previous lenders of money to said seller by paying all monies owed lienholders existing at the time of sale.

16. (original) A system in accordance with claim 10 wherein said system includes attending to recordal of new liens associated with borrowing by said buyer.